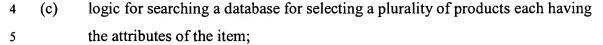
CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1	1.	A method for matching products to a textual rec	uest, comprising the steps of:
	1.	11 momou for matering products to a tentual re-	lacot, comprising the steps of

- 2 (a) receiving a request for information about an item;
- 3 (b) parsing the request for determining attributes of the item;
- searching a database for selecting a plurality of products each having the attributes of the item;
- 6 (d) retrieving information about the products; and
- 7 (e) outputting the information about the products.
- 1 2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the plurality of products have been pre-2 associated based on the attributes.
- 1 3. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the information about the products includes a name of a vendor of the products.
- A method as recited in claim 3, wherein criteria for selecting the vendor include at least one of price of the products, proximity to the vendor, availability of delivery, whether the products are in stock, wrapping availability, shipping availability, tracking availability, and a loyalty program.
- 1 5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the information about the products 2 includes a name of a plurality of vendors of the products.
- 1 6. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein a promotional offer is output with the information about the products.

- 1 7. A computer program product for matching products to a textual request,
 2 comprising:
- 3 (a) computer code for receiving a request for information about an item;
- 4 (b) computer code for parsing the request for determining attributes of the item;
- 5 (c) computer code for searching a database for selecting a plurality of products each
 6 having the attributes of the item;
- 7 (d) computer code for retrieving information about the products; and
- 8 (e) computer code for outputting the information about the products.
- 1 8. A computer program product as recited in claim 7, wherein the plurality of 2 products have been pre-associated based on the attributes.
- 1 9. A computer program product as recited in claim 7, wherein the information 2 about the products includes a name of a vendor of the products.
- 1 10. A computer program product as recited in claim 9, wherein criteria for selecting
 2 the vendor include at least one of price of the products, proximity to the vendor,
 3 availability of delivery, whether the products are in stock, wrapping availability,
 4 shipping availability, tracking availability, and a loyalty program.
- 1 11. A computer program product as recited in claim 7, wherein the information about the products includes a name of a plurality of vendors of the products.
- 1 12. A computer program product as recited in claim 7, wherein a promotional offer is output with the information about the products.
- 1 13. A system for matching products to a textual request, comprising:
- 2 (a) logic for receiving a request for information about an item;
- 3 (b) logic for parsing the request for determining attributes of the item;



- 6 (d) logic for retrieving information about the products; and
- 7 (e) logic for outputting the information about the products.
- 1 14. A system as recited in claim 13, wherein the plurality of products have been pre-2 associated based on the attributes.
- 1 15. A system as recited in claim 13, wherein the information about the products includes a name of a vendor of the products.
- 1 16. A system as recited in claim 15, wherein criteria for selecting the vendor include 2 at least one of price of the products, proximity to the vendor, availability of 3 delivery, whether the products are in stock, wrapping availability, shipping 4 availability, tracking availability, and a loyalty program.
- 1 17. A system as recited in claim 13, wherein the information about the products includes a name of a plurality of vendors of the products.
- 1 18. A system as recited in claim 13, wherein a promotional offer is output with the information about the products.